



PATENT APPLICATION

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#6
4/10/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shigenobu NAKAMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3682

Application No.: 10/041,634

Examiner: B. Van Pelt

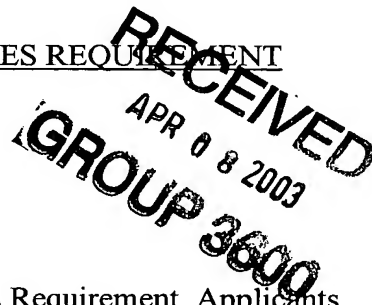
Filed: January 10, 2002

Docket No.: 111650

For: ENGINE AUXILIARY UNIT DRIVING EQUIPMENT

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231



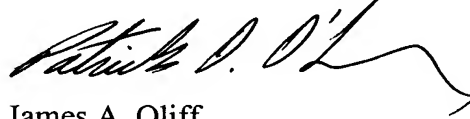
Sir:

In reply to the March 6, 2003 Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species E, Figure 6, with traverse. At least claims 1, 2 and 6 read on the elected species. At least claims 1 and 2 are generic to all species.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-6 is sufficiently related such that thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass the search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application could be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in

order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office. Thus, withdrawal of the Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Patrick O. O'Leary
Registration No. 51,035

JAO/POO:kxm

Date: April 7, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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